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Nightmares
& Fairy Tales

Nightmares and Fairy Tales #20

Harmony: Sleeping Beauty's Story, Part Two of Two

Dedicated with Love:
To the Memory of My Beautiful and Talented Sister, Jesse

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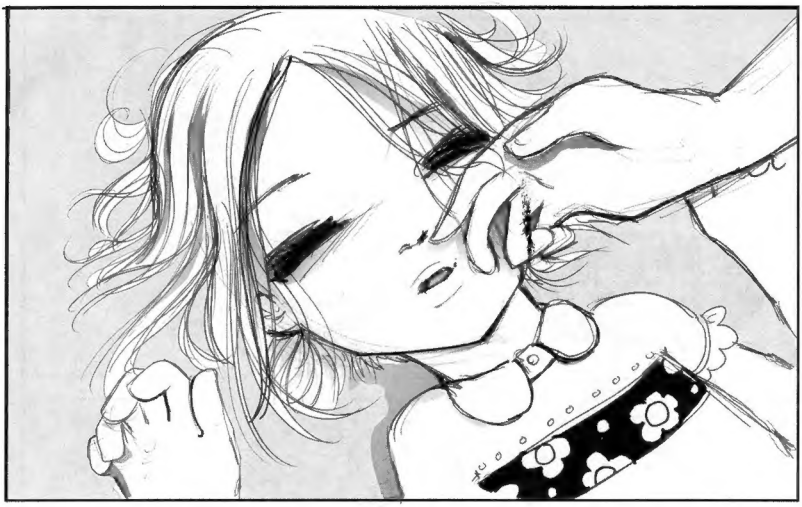
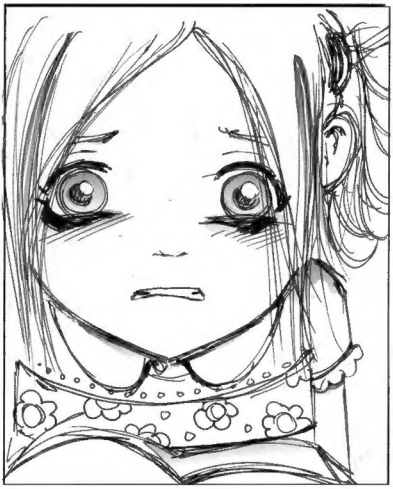
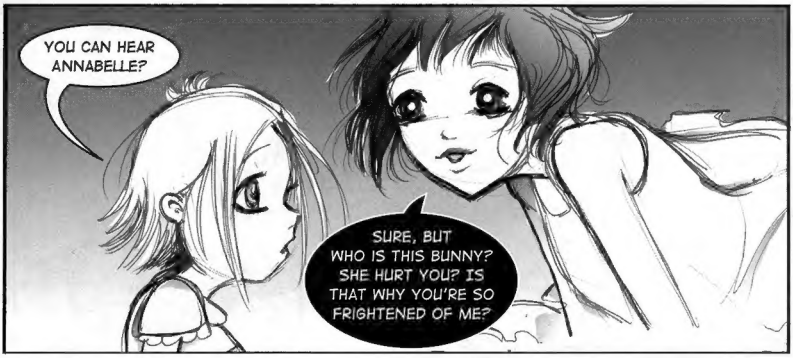




PLEASE, DON'T SCREAM. I WON'T HURT YOU, I PROMISE.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU COULD ACTUALLY SEE ME.
THAT'S ALL YOU WANTED?
I SUPPOSE.

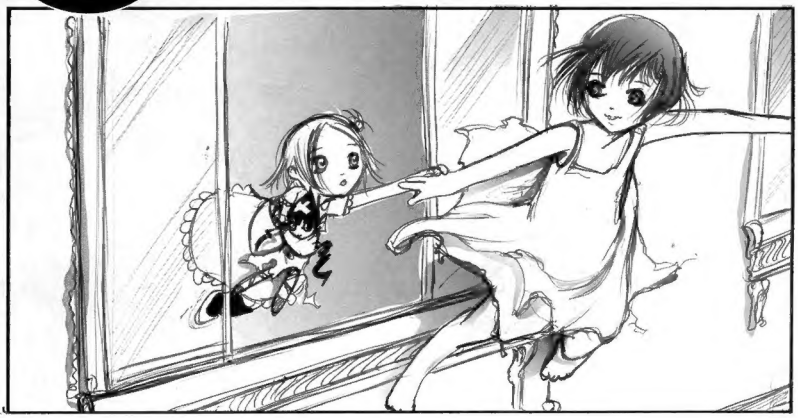
WELL, THAT AND I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO GO WITH ME TO PLAYLAND.
I DON'T THINK SO.
REALLY?
ARE YOU SURE? I THINK YOU'LL LOVE IT. YOU CAN BRING YOUR DOLL IF YOU WANT.
SHE'S NOT LIKE BUNNY. SHE WON'T HURT YOU.
SHE SEEMS LIKE SHE WANTS TO GO.
WHO'S BUNNY?

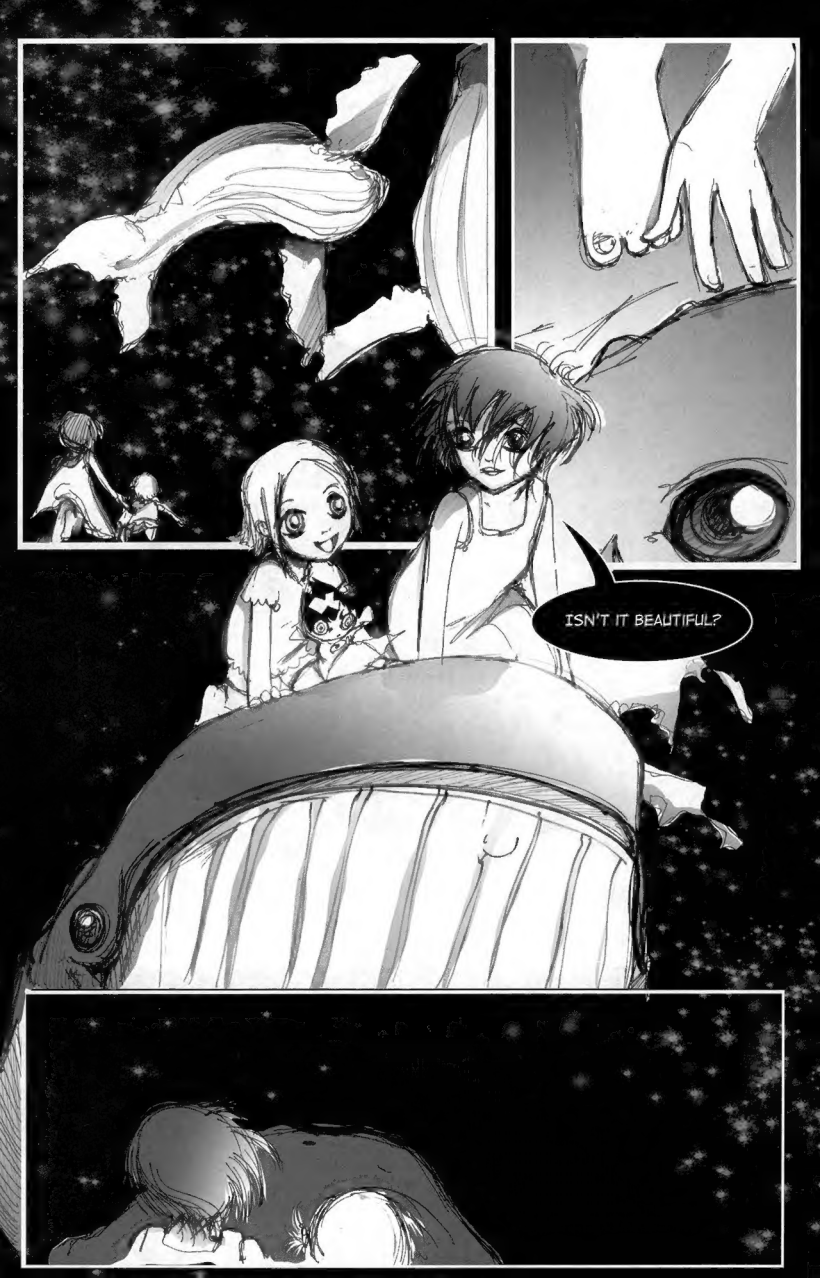

YOU CAN HEAR ANNABELLE?
SURE, BUT WHO IS THIS BUNNY? SHE HURT YOU? IS THAT WHY YOU'RE SO FRIGHTENED OF ME?

YES...
COME ON SILLY! WE'RE GOING ON AN ADVENTURE. I'LL MAKE SUREYOU'RE BACK BEFORE YOUR AUNT WAKES UP, I PROMISE.

OPEN THE WINDOW.

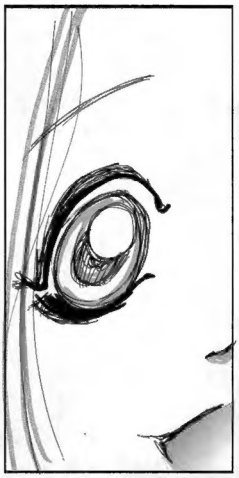
YOU CAN TRUST HER, GWEN.




ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?

I DON'T SEE PLAYLAND.

IT'S RIGHT THERE, CHEEKY! LOOK!



OOOOOOOOH
HAH HAH HA HAH HAH
AAAAUUUUUAAAAAGGGGHHH
HEEHEE
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA HAHA HAHA
WHEEEEEEEE HAHA

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO FIRST? I KNOW! WE SHOULD GO ON A RIDE!
WE CAN WE GO ON THE RIDES?
WHY COULDN'T WE, SILLY? COME ON!

THIS IS SO BEAUTIFUL!
I KNEW YOU WOULD LOVE IT! THANK YOU FOR TRUSTING ME, GWEN.
THE ONLY OTHER GHOST I'VE MET WAS BUNNY AND SHE WAS HORRIBLE. YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HER.
I'M NOT A GHOST, SILLY!
REALLY?
YOU'RE SLEEPY. I SHOULD GET YOU BACK TO YOUR AUNT.
BUT I LOVE BEING HERE WITH YOU.
I KNOW. MAYBE WE CAN GO OUT AGAIN TOMORROW NIGHT? I CAN SHOW YOU THE TOWER OF JEWELS AND TAKE YOU TO THE ZONE!

OKAY!
COME ON, CHEEKY! OFF TO SLEEP WITH YOU..
I HAD A LOVELY TIME.
ME TOO! THANK YOU.
GOODNIGHT. MAYBE I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW AT THE TEA GARDENS!
OKAY! GOODNIGHT...

THE FOLLOWING DAY...

AUNT BEA, WHERE ARE THE RESTROOMS?
OVER THERE I THINK. DO YOU WANT ME TO COME WITH YOU?
NO, THANK YOU. I WILL BE RIGHT BACK.
COME ON, I WANT TO SHOW YOU MY FAVORITE CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE. YOU'LL LOVE IT!
I CAN'T, MY AUNT IS ALREADY UPSET AT ME.
SHE LOVES YOU, THAT'S ALL. SHE ISN'T REALLY UPSET, JUST WORRIED. BUT SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
COME ON, CHEEKY! IT WILL ONLY TAKE A SECOND!

SEE, YOU LOVE IT! I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I SAW THIS TREE IT MADE ME CRY. BEAUTIFUL THINGS ALWAYS MADE ME CRY. NOW THEY JUST MAKE ME HAPPY.
WHY DID IT MAKE YOU CRY?
THE BEAUTY HURT ME DEEPLY. EVERYTHING DID UNTIL....
UNTIL YOU DIED? HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
I TOLD YOU, SILLY. I'M NOT A GHOST.

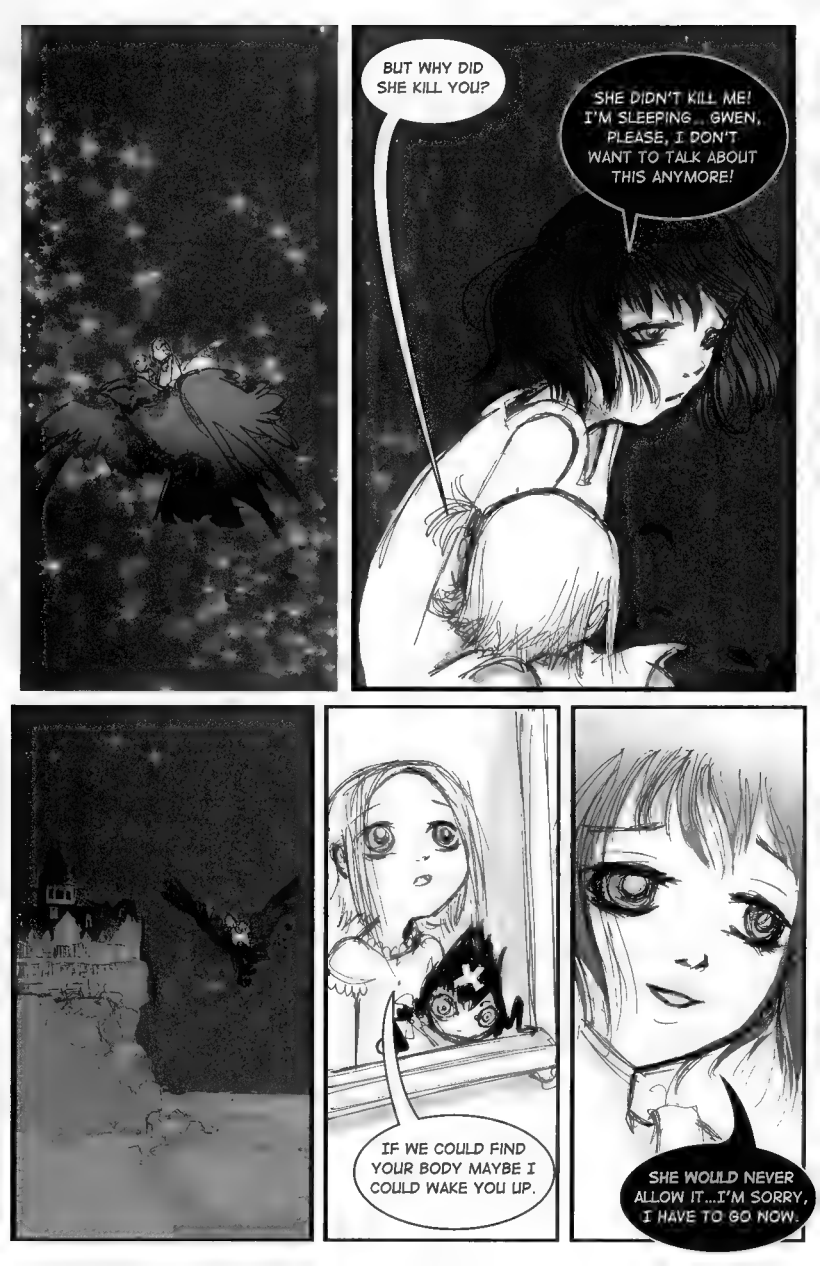
AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOUR AUNT SAID. WHEN PEOPLE DIE, THEY KNOW IT. THIS IS MY TIME BEFORE I DIE, BEFORE THE DARKNESS.
BUT NO ONE ELSE CAN SEE YOU BUT ME.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT IS. BEFORE YOU, NO ONE SAW ME.
THAT MUST BE LONELY.
...WE HAVE A DATE TO SEE THE TOWER OF JEWELS!
YOU BETTER GET BACK TO YOUR AUNT BEFORE SHE STARTS TO WORRY. I WILL SEE YOU LATER TONIGHT...
THERE YOU ARE! I WAS GETTING WORRIED! WHO WERE YOU TALKING TO?
THE GIRL. I THINK SHE'S LONELY. NO ONE CAN SEE HER BUT ME!

LISTEN TO ME, SWEETHEART, YOU'RE GOING TO COME ACROSS MANY CREATURES THAT WANT YOUR ATTENTION BECAUSE YOU CAN SEE THEM, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD OPEN YOUR HEART TO ALL OF THEM. I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU GET HURT. ANNABELLE'S PROTECTION CAN ONLY GO SO FAR. YOU WERE VERY LUCKY TO ESCAPE BUNNY BUT YOU MAY NOT BE SO FORTUNATE NEXT TIME.
I THINK YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT HER.
THAT MAY BE, BUT YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME GWEN, WHEN I SAY IT IS BEST THAT YOU DON'T SPEND ANYMORE TIME WITH HER. IT'S GETTING LATE. WE SHOULD GO BACK TO THE HOTEL AND HAVE DINNER.

YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE! I HATE YOU! YOU'RE A VICIOUS, HORRIBLE WOMAN!
YOU MUST DRINK THIS! DON'T MAKE ME FORCE YOU!
STAY AWAY FROM ME! I WON'T DRINK IT, I WON'T! I DESPISE YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME! I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
PLEASE, DON'T DO THIS! PLEASE! I IMPLORE YOU!
GGHHNNNHH....

COME ON, CHEEKY!

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
THE WORLD'S FAIR! THIS IS MY FAVORITE BUILDING, THE TOWER OF JEWELS!
THAT'S NOT WHERE THE WOMAN IN BLACK KILLED YOU?
HOW DO YOU KNO ABOUT THE WOMA
I HAD A DREAM ABOUT HER.
DON'T THINK OF HER. PUT HER OUT OF YOUR MIND.
BUT I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!
I REALLY WANTED HAVE FUN TONIGH BUT WE HAVE TO G NOW. I'M SORRY


BUT WHY DID SHE KILL YOU?
SHE DIDN'T KILL ME! I'M SLEEPING... GWEN, PLEASE, I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS ANYMORE!
IF WE COULD FIND YOUR BODY MAYBE I COULD WAKE YOU UP.
SHE WOULD NEVER ALLOW IT...I'M SORRY, I HAVE TO GO NOW.

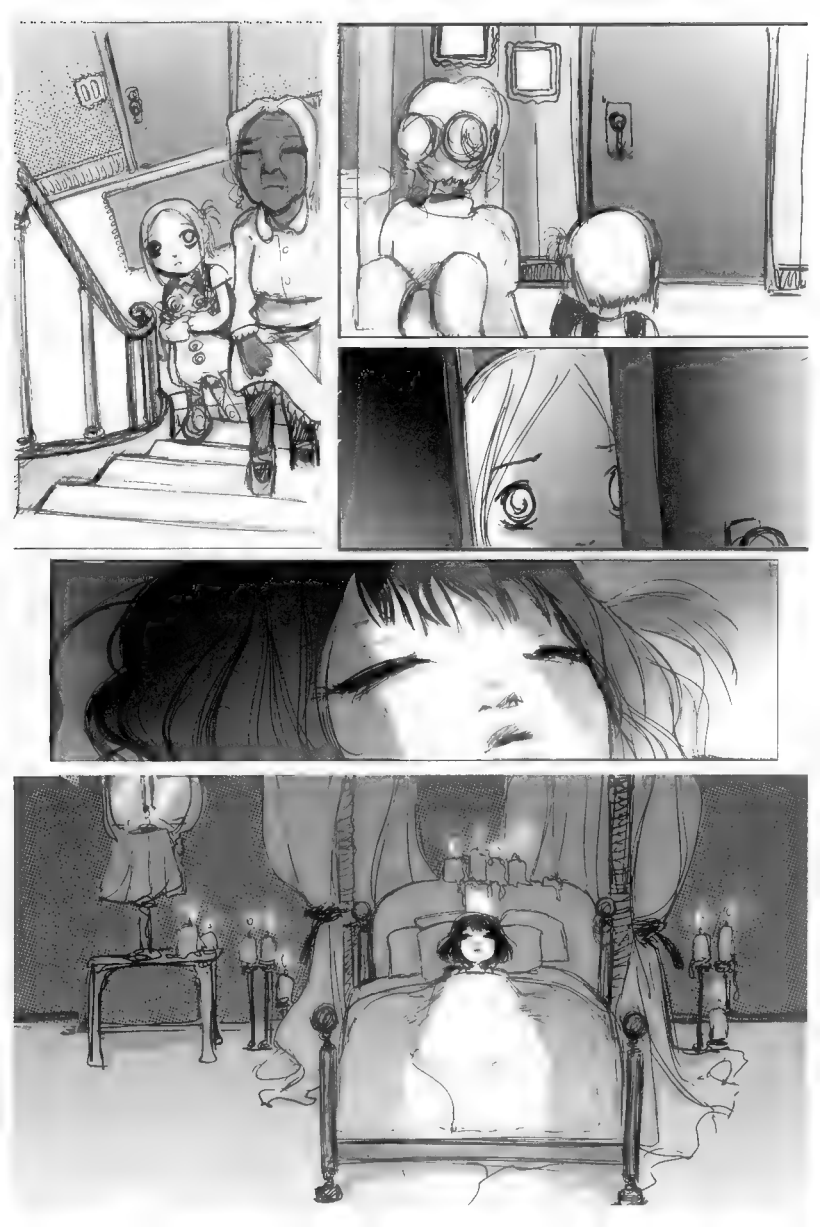
GOODBYE, MY FRIEND. I'M SO HAPPY TO HAVE MET YOU!
WAIT! DON'T GO! I WANT TO HELP YOU.
GOODBYE!
YOU CAN'T, BUT I LOVE YOU FOR WANTING TO.

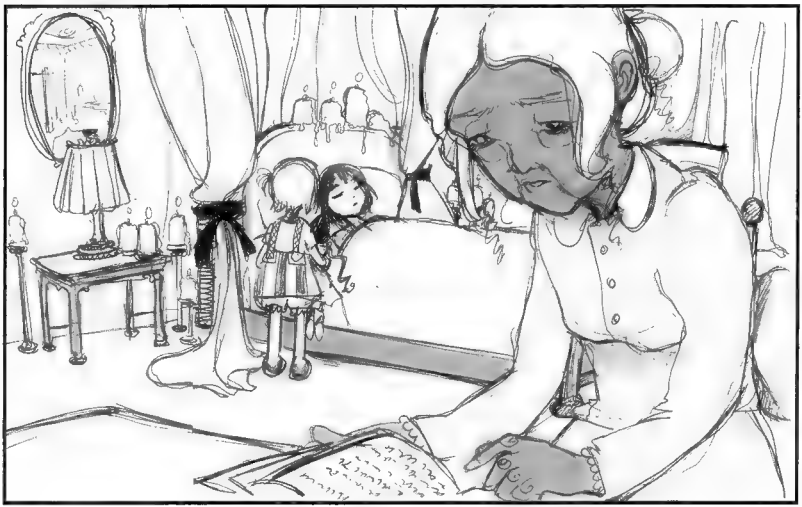
GASP!
THAT'S THE HOUSE!

GWEN! WHAT WERE YOU DOING OUT OF BED?
THAT GIRL NEEDS OUR HELP, AUNT BEATRICE! SHE ISN'T DEAD, SHE'S SLEEPING! AN EVIL WOMAN IS HOLDING HER CAPTIVE IN A TOWER SOMEWHERE IN THIS CITY!
HOW ARE WE TO FIND THIS PLACE?
THIS IS THE HOUSE!
GIVE ME A MOMENT TO DRESS. GRAB YOUR COAT. IT'S GOING TO BE COLD.

LATER...

THERE IT IS!
AND WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE WE DO NOW? JUST WALK UP AND RING THE BELL? IT'S AFTER 10:00.
THE LIGHT'S ON, SO WHY NOT?
HELLO?
THE WOMAN IS NO LONGER HERE. BEAUTY IS ALONE IN THE TOWER.
ANNABELLE SAYS SHE'S UPSTAIRS IN THE TOWER.





NO! PLEASE, YOU SHOULD HAVE LET ME DIE...
DON'T WORRY DEAR, I WILL HELP YOU.

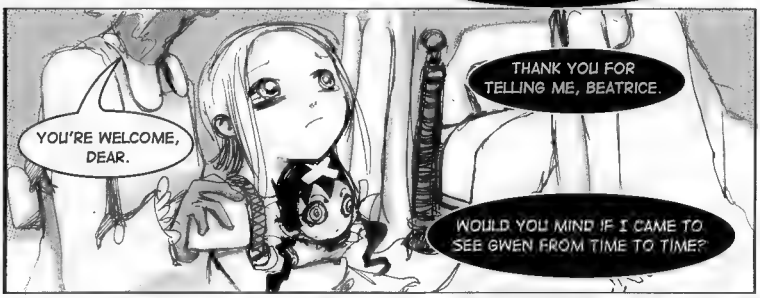
OH, THE POOR DEAR.
WE HAVE TO WAKE HER UP!
GWEN, I LOVE YOU FOR WANTING TO HELP ME, BUT THIS IS WHERE I BELONG. THIS IS MY TIME.
BUT THAT WOMAN HURT YOU...
NO, SHE DIDN'T.
YOU SAID YOU HATED HER!
I DID AT FIRST. I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER FORGIVE HER FOR SAVING MY LIFE. I WANTED DARKNESS...
...BUT SHE GAVE ME ANOTHER LIFE, HERE IN THE PLACE, A PLACE TO DREAM AND EXPERIENCE BEAUTY IN A WAY I NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE. I AM TRULY HAPPY. PLEASE DON'T WAKE ME, GWEN.

I DON'T THINK WE COULD WAKE YOU IF WE WANTED. THE DATES IN THIS BOOK GO BACK QUITE FAR. I THINK YOU PASSED MANY YEARS AGO. I'M SORRY.

HAVE I REALLY?

THEN SHE IS A GHOST?

I SUPPOSE I AM. I HONESTLY DIDN'T KNOW, GWEN. I DIDN'T MEAN TO DECEIVE YOU.
I ALWAYS FEARED TRAVELING TOO FAR FROM MY BODY, BUT NOW THAT I KNOW I'M FREE, I THINK I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SEE THE MOON AND STARS.


THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME, BEATRICE.
YOU'RE WELCOME, DEAR.
WOULD YOU MIND IF I CAME TO SEE GWEN FROM TIME TO TIME?

NOT AT ALL.
GOOD, THEN I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT MEETING.

I LOVE YOU, LITTLE SISTER. I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN SOON...

THE END

Nightmares and Fairy Tales #21

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by Serena Valentino & Camilla d'Errico

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In stores November 2007.

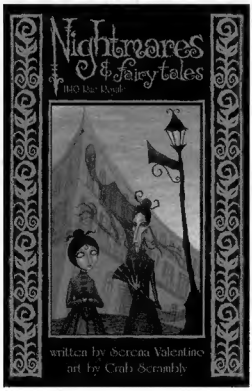
Letter from the Writer

Hello Lovelies,

Thanks so much for joining us for the conclusion of Sleeping Beauty's story. Camilla and I are having a delightful time with these issues and we thank you for all your lovely emails and letters letting us know you are enjoying the series.

It was wonderful meeting with some of you at APE in San Francisco and I hope to see some of you again at the San Diego Comic Con in July.

Pleasant dreams,
Serena



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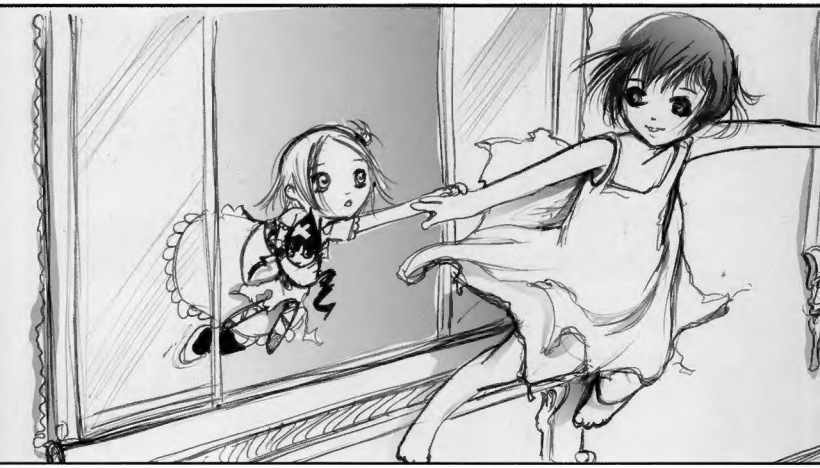

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